



NEWSLETTER

September 1979

THIRD PRESIDENTIAL REPORT.

Regrettably, circumstances did not permit Dr. John Keys to present the 'Third Presidential Report' during the Convention in June. It is recorded in the Newsletter for the interest and information of all members of the Society, on page 7.

The President's Column

It is a great honour to become President of A.S.D.C. and I hope with your support to make a worthwhile contribution to the further development of the Society. As the new Council will not meet for formal discussions until the A.D.A. Convention in Hobart next February I have listed what I believe are some of the goals we should be achieving in the next two years.

1. Increased communication between the Council, State branches and members.
2. Increased involvement by members in I.A.D.C. both as Supporting members and participants in future Congresses.
3. The production of a report on the 'Delivery of dental care for children in Australia, present and future. If this report is to be a worthwhile contribution from the Society to Dentistry then many members will need to assist in its preparation.
4. All State branches should attempt to increase membership, particularly as we are the host country to I.A.D.C. in Melbourne, February 21-24th, 1983.

I would ask any member who wishes to make comments on A.S.D.C. or to present new ideas to please write to me or any member of Council.

Kevin Allen.

From The Federal Secretary's desk

1. Federal Council Meeting,
Adelaide 27th June, 1979.

i. New Office Bearers,	
President	Dr. K.R. Allen
Vice President	Dr. ARthur Telford
Secretary/	
Treasurer	Dr. Thomas C. Mackay
Executive	
Editor	Prof. A.M. Horsnell

- ii. The Chairman of the Scientific Programme Committee for the A.D.A. Hobart Convention has requested A.S.D.C. assistance for

- i. Static display (unmanned)
- ii. Table Demonstrations, ie half-hour practical presentations to small groups which will encourage the free exchange of ideas.

Members are urged to contact the Secretary immediately if they are able to help.

The date - February 17th-22nd, 1980

- iii. It was suggested that, in those States where there is a Dental School the Branch should be encouraged to present an Award for the top Under-graduate in Paedodontics in The Final Examination. This practice is in line with that of other Affiliated Societies of the A.D.A. The Award might take the form of a Certificate plus a cash or book prize.

cont'd page 2

2. The General Meeting,

Adelaide, 28th June 1979.

- i. A.S.D.C. Federal Constitution was amended to provide 'Student Members'
- ii. Replicas of the Presidential Jewel were presented to the Past President of the Society, namely Dr. Roger Hall (Inaugural President), Professor Emeritus A.M. Horsnell and Dr. John C. Keys.
- iii. Honorary Life Membership was conferred upon Professor Emeritus Max Horsnell.
- iv. One controversial point was raised under General Business; the question was asked- 'Has Council examined the use of dental therapists in private practice? Furthermore will Council make a submission to the Federal A.D.A. to alter their policy with regard to therapists working in private practice?'. It is suggested that this matter be discussed at a State Branch level and that reports be sent via the Federal Secretary to Council.

Tom Mackay.

International Association of Dentistry for Children.

Budapest-July, 1979. 8th Congress. The Scientific programme consisted of 15 minute presentations of about 40 papers selected from the 150 which had been submitted, also 110 poster presentations. Simultaneous translation was available in French, Russian, German, Hungarian and English. It is interesting to note that it was the first International Meeting of Children's Dentistry attended by Russian dentists. The attendance at the meeting was approximately 800, dentists and accompanying persons, from other countries and 150 Hungarian dentists. The organisation was excellent and all participants were impressed by the Hungarian hospitality.

The I.A.D.C. Council Meeting was held on the day before the Congress. A real problem in an international forum is communication. Instantaneous translation was available for the first time at a Council meeting and this expedited the business.

Membership of the Council has increased from 10 countries, mainly Western Europe and North America 8 years ago to 28 countries throughout the world including Cuba which was granted membership at the meeting. The item on the agenda dealing with the amendment of the Constitution was discussed at length. A.S.D.C. members will be notified when the amended Constitution has been received by the Secretary.

Dr. Haim Sarnat in his Presidential report, referred to the objectives of the I.A.D.C.; he believes that these can only be achieved through people who are ready to work and involve themselves. Health Authorities and Mass Media give more attention to a problem when they realise that many people from many countries considered the matter important. The I.A.D.C. can give impetus to programmes which have faltered and need reviving. It can plant the seed of Dental care for children in places where it was not considered a need. It can sponsor, give respectability and recognition to professional efforts for improvement, such as seminars and symposia.

Professor Gerry Winter presented his eighth, and final, Secretary's Report in which he stated 'probably the greatest contribution of the Association has been to stimulate the formation of national groups and societies devoted to child dental health in individual countries around the world; examples of this are to be found in Hungary and Australia.'

At the end of the meeting Professor Winter was unanimously elected an Honorary Member of the Association.

The International prize, sponsored by Astra Lakemedel AB, for publication of an original essay in the field of child dental health has been increased to 400 (Sterling). Supporting members who require further information should contact the Secretary of A.S.D.C.

Roger Hall presented the report on arrangements for the 9th CONGRESS in Melbourne indicating that

planning is well advanced. From discussions with many of the participants in Budapest there is considerable interest in Australia and the Melbourne Congress.

The Officers of I.A.D.C. are
 President Dr. M. Album U.S.A.
 Vice Pres't Dr. P. Toth Hungary
 Secretary Prof. J. Murray U.K.
 Editor Prof. L. Silverstone U.S.A.
 Past Pres't. Dr. H. Sarnat Israel

The 8th Congress of I.A.D.C. will be held in DAVOS, Switzerland, July 23rd-26th, 1981. The theme of the Congress will be

1. Children's Dentistry - a social responsibility.
2. Missing teeth
3. Free papers

Kevin Allen

W.A. Branch

Seven members of the W.A. Branch travelled to Adelaide for the 3rd Federal Clinical Meeting. This represents just over 40% of the membership of the Branch so we were well pleased with this response. All those who attended gained from the trip, both socially and academically. The South Australian Branch are to be congratulated on conducting such a successful meeting.

Since the Adelaide Expedition, the Branch has held one General Meeting, and it must rate as one of the most successful meetings in the history of the Branch. It was in the form of a seminar, entitled 'The provision of Dental Services for Children in Western Australia'. There were four panel members; each outlined the services he or his department provided, and this was followed by a most interesting and sometimes lively discussion. This discussion was assisted by a remarkable attendance - with guests, over 50 people were present. The first of the Panel to speak was Dr. Kevin Wren, Director of Dental Services at the Perth Dental Hospital. He was followed by the Principal Dental Officer from the

Public Health Department, Dr. John Prichard, who spoke on aspects of the School Dental Service and Fluoridation. Next was Dr. Bill Brogan, who heads the Dental Unit at the Princess Margaret Hospital for Children, and he outlined the special services that the Unit provides. The final speaker was Dr. Andy Graebner, who will be well known to the Victorian Branch members following his contribution to their June Seminar on 'Team Dentistry'. Andy outlined his rather unusual private practice situation where his team includes two W.A.I.T. trained Therapists and in addition a Dental Health Educator. The economic advantages to the patient, in addition to the quality of the service provided, defied argument.

Members now look forward to the final meeting, the Annual General Meeting and Dinner. This year it will be held at the Sheraton-Perth Hotel on Wednesday 7th November. The Guest Speaker will be Prof. W.B. Macdonald, W.A. University, Department of Child Health.

Alistair Devlin

Victorian Branch

Since the last Newsletter we have conducted our (third) 'One-Day' Convention, this year titled 'Team Dentistry'. Again we were fortunate to use the facilities at the Dental Therapy School here in Melbourne. There were three Guest Speakers: from Adelaide, Dr. Don Worley, General Practitioner and well known for his interest in Dental Auxilliary Training Courses; Dr. Andy Graebner, formerly Director of the W.A.I.T. School of Dental Therapy, Perth, now in General Practice, working with W.A.I.T. trained Therapists; the third speaker was Mrs. Robyn Robinson, from the Social Biology Resources Centre in Melbourne, a Psychologist with a particular interest in developing communication skills amongst professional groups.

cont'd page 4

This meeting, on June 11th, attracted an audience, Society members and visitors, of over 75. Dr. Worley opened proceedings by speaking on the various forms of the Auxiliaries that are available in Team practice, their present and possible future roles and functions. He stressed the role of the Dentist as leader of the Dental Health Team and the need for him to work efficiently and comfortably with chairside assistants of the highest standard. He was followed by Dr. Braebner, who spoke on the special form of practice that he conducts in Western Australia where he employs Therapists as the basis of his Team Dentistry approach to practice. He spoke on their role and utilisation in providing dental care for children and, with certain restrictions, for adults in such a form of private practice, and stressed the absolute necessity for such Therapists to work always under the control of supervising dentists. By employing such auxiliaries he stressed the ability of Dentists to free themselves from labour intensive forms of dental therapy and so to be able to concentrate on the all important aspect of Diagnosis and Treatment Planning and more exacting forms of Restorative care. He, in turn, was followed by Mrs. Robinson who spent an interesting hour establishing at a broad level the different forms of communication that exist between people, no matter who they may be, when brought into face to face situations with each other. For each of the three stances adopted in relation to the other, namely passivity, aggression and assertiveness, she role-played these situations before the audience and later asked for their comments on what they had seen. This aroused much discussion and interest.

Following lunch Dr. Graebner gave his second presentation with a statement on the role of the Therapist in prevention of Dental and Oral Disease. He certainly stimulated much comment and discussion during both of his presentations, and it was interesting to learn at first hand of his success in putting certain ideals into practice.

Dr. Worley concluded the days programme with a Chairside Demonstration of 'Efficient Comfortable Dentistry - Working with Chairside Assistance'.

This year's third Dinner Meeting on July 5th, was attended by over 30 members and guests to hear a 'Mini-Talk' by Society member Dr. Maria Highfield and her husband Don (who is Secretary of the A.S.A.A.D.) who spoke on 'Attitudes to Sedation in our Practice'. They stressed the inadequacies or Intravenous methods of sedation in children and promoted the efficacy of the Nitrous Oxide Relative Analgesia form of Psycho-Sedation but most particularly emphasised the patient's need for sedation in order to cope with necessary dental procedures. After the dinner our Guest Speaker Miss Synthia Edgell, chief Speech Pathologist, the Royal Children Hospital, who spoke on the broad scope of her work particularly in analysing the speech behaviour of the clinically more noticeable forms of Speech Pathology. Her subject was of obvious interest to the audience, and as this subject has not been broached before in our meetings, it provided a stimulus for future contacts, on the basis of the common ground that exists, between our professions.

The programme for next year will comprise Dinner Meetings for March, May, July and September, and our 'One-Day' Meeting will again be held at the Dental Therapy School, June 30th, and the programme will be titled 'Oral Disease in Children'. Further details of our future programme will be given in the next Newsletter.

Finally this Branch wishes to compliment the South Australian Branch's effort in staging the very successful Biennial Clinical Meeting. About a dozen Victorian members attended the meeting and thoroughly enjoyed the programme as well as the local hospitality.

John Wilde

N.S.W. Branch

It is with much pleasure that we can report a successful outcome of the referendum held by the Shire Council of Shoalhaven at Nowra on 30th June 1979. The result was the endorsement of Fluoridation of the community water supply.

Assisting the dental profession and the Dental Health Education and Research Foundation in the campaign leading up to the referendum were some eminently qualified specialists in various fields viz. Dr. Joyce Foad, Director of the Central Cancer Registry of the Health Commission of N.S.W. and Dr. Gordon Lafarty, Medical Director of the N.S.W. State Cancer Council, both of whom were able to refute the claims alleging a link between fluoride and cancer. Dr. William McBride was able to dispose of the inferences relating fluoride to Thalidamide. Our congratulations go to the Dental Health Education and Research Foundation on mounting a successful campaign and on achieving a resounding victory.

Well done!

Our last dinner meeting was held at Sydney University on 31st July. The Guest Speaker was Dr. John Highfield, a specialist Periodontist and half-time Senior Lecturer in Periodontics, Department of Preventive Dentistry, Sydney University. John's excellent presentation was entitled 'Oral Pathology in Children and Adolescents'.

Planning is well in hand for our first 'Weekend' Seminar to be held at the Sydney Opera House, 18th-19th April, 1980. The organisers are confident that the Scientific Programme will be rewarding, the Social arrangements most convivial and we in N.S.W. look forward to welcoming many interstate visitors. Detailed brochures will be mailed to all A.S.D.C. members soon.

Tom Mackay

S.A. Branch

The Third Clinical Meeting held in Adelaide in late June was a great success. The Guest Speaker, Professor Thomas K. Barber enlightened us all about the assessment and maintenance of arch length, growth in the child, and oral habits and their correction. Professor Barber had a wealth of experience on which to draw, and it was interesting to note how different philosophies had changed over the years and in some instances, turned the full circle.

The social programme was most entertaining, the private dinner parties proved to be a successful innovation. Also the idea of extending the programme to the Saturday was well received. The trip to Martindale Hall was fascinating - to be served morning tea and scones in the Victorian Style in the dining room was almost something out of the last century. Lunch at the Quelltaler winery was a huge success and the hospitality of the Sobels family was unsurpassed.

Our congratulations go to Emeritus Professor A.M. Horsnell on being made an Honorary Life Member of the Society. As we all know 'Prof' Horsnell has an international reputation and has devoted a lot of time to the Society since its inception.

At the Branch Meeting on 27th Aug. the Annual General Meeting was held. The following officers were elected:

President: Dr. Clive Durney
Vice Pres't: Dr. Joe Verco
Secretary/

Treasurer: Dr. John Kibble
Dr. Verco will be responsible for the secretarial position until the end of the year when Dr. Kibble will have finished some examinations.

The Guest Speaker for the August meeting was Dr. Graham Martin, a Child Psychiatrist from the Adelaide Childrens' Hospital. Dr. Martin gave a positive talk on the Association of the Welfare of Children in Hospital. He discussed at length their needs, the anxieties the children may have, the measurement

cont'd page 6

of these anxieties and how these may be reduced. He outlined a study in which he is involved, presently being carried out in the Children's Hospital to assess and allay some of the anxieties/fears that children may have.

The next meeting on 29th October will be held in the Staff Club, University of Adelaide. There will be two speakers, lawyer Mr. Terence Evans and accountant Mr. Brian Harmer who will speak on 'Trusts and Money Management for the Professional Man'. Interstate visitors wishing to attend this meeting will be very welcome. Would anyone who intends to come please let the State Secretary know beforehand.

Joe Verco

FROM THE JOURNALS by John P. Brown

In this issue of the newsletter FROM THE JOURNALS is included with the reports from the Branches and other items and is located on page 8.

This gives me the opportunity to record that this item has been the subject of favourable comment from a number of members. Also I can thank John Brown for his valuable help.

If any member is interested to assist Dr. Brown with this abstracting service, on a regular basis, he/she should contact Dr. Brown, c/o The Dental School, Turbot Street, Brisbane. Queensland 4000.

Editor.

The production of this newsletter has been assisted by Colgate Palmolive Pty. Ltd.

Third Presidential Report

This the 3rd presidential report of our society will be a little different from the others, as I became president after the 2nd Congress in Brisbane and will finish my term of office before the 3rd Congress in Adelaide. Hence my privilege of addressing a general meeting of our society has been limited.

However, I almost succeeded in my goal to visit and address each state branch during my term of office, and I hope in this way I have been able to demonstrate to our members that I am not just a name on a letterhead, but a person vitally involved in furthering the aims of our society.

Thanks to an efficient and hard working council, there have been several significant advancements for our society in the last term. On 31st July, 1977 the I.A.D.C. accepted our invitation to hold the 9th International Conference in Melbourne in 1983: on 23rd November 1977, N.S.W. officially formed a branch of our society and gained full state membership rights; and official affiliation of our society with the A.D.A. was attained on 20th April, 1978.

We now have Dr. Tom Mackay of Sydney appointed as our liaison officer with the A.D.A., and already we have played a significant part in negotiation with the A.D.A. council over contentious policy statements. Copies of the affiliated societies meetings have been tabled for your perusal.

Dr. Roger Hall of Melbourne was appointed as 'provisor' for the 1983 I.A.D.C. Congress, and his up to date report is also tabled for your perusal.

Our membership numbers have increased but I still feel that this is one area in which we could be far more active especially now we have a dental therapy scheme that is Australia wide and aiming at treating all the primary school children of Australia.

Throughout my term of office I have constantly stated that we are a society that must speak up for a continued high standard of treatment for Australian children, and we can only do this by enlisting as members the dentists who are involved in the teaching and administration of the therapy scheme. I reiterate my stand, and urge fellow councillors to do the same.

In conclusion, I wish to pay particular tribute to my often beleaguered secretary, Dr. Alistair Devlin, whose efficiency and personal friendship sustained me mightily during the last two years.

I congratulate Dr. Kevin Allen on his election as your President and trust that all the officers of the Society will have a successful and enjoyable tenure of office.

John Keys.

FROM THE JOURNALS By JOHN P. BROWN
BRISBANE DENTAL SURVEY, 1977

DMFT scores represent a 50% reduction on levels reported in 1954 and a 20-35% reduction on caries experience of Queensland country children in 1967. 21% of the sample consumed fluoride tablets regularly and had caries levels virtually identical with lifetime residents of fluoridated areas. There have been substantial reductions since 1954 in caries experience of Brisbane children. The nature of and reasons for the reduction are matters for conjecture. Rising affluence and improved parental education have been features of the period. Health education has been intensified. Professionally applied fluoride applications have increased markedly and the insurance funds give rebates for preventive as well as restorative procedures. (McEniery T.M. & Davies G.N.: Brisbane Dental Survey, 1977 - A Comparative Study. Dent. Oral Epidemiol. 1979:7.42-50)

THE RELATION BETWEEN DIETETIC KNOWLEDGE AND EATING BEHAVIOUR

There does not necessarily have to be a correlation between a person's attitudes and his behaviour. On the contrary, it can often be shown there is a difference between what one says and what one does. This proven fact in modern psychology, exerts a negative influence on the effectiveness of dietetic counselling. Truly efficient dietetic counselling must include treatment to modify dietary behaviour as well.

Generally, dietary treatment centres around negative reinforcement, or the elimination of positive reinforcers. In other words, the pleasure from certain habits, quantities and qualities of food must be eliminated. Parents can be taught to avoid producing situations in the daily life of their children which lead to the linking of inappropriate stimuli to the response of eating so that stimuli, not related with the biological needs of energy balance can no longer influence appetite. For those who received parental dietary training under false contingencies, there exists the possibility of behaviour modification therapy. (Food and Nutrition Notes and Reviews, Vol.34, No.4, 1977 159-163)

EXTRACTION OF TEETH INVOLVED IN THE LINE OF MANDIBULAR FRACTURES

The indications for extraction of teeth in the line of mandibular fractures has been analysed on basis of 185 teeth involved in fractures treated in the time period 1973-1976. Indications for extraction could be limited to teeth with longitudinal crown-root fractures and teeth involved in infected fractures not attending treatment until several days after the accident. Maintenance of teeth in the fracture line means on the other hand a thorough regular clinical control of the fracture region with radiographic examination and vitality test of the teeth for at least a year. (Swed.Dent. J 3: 27-32 (1979)).

NITROUS OXIDE RELATED NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS.

The occurrence is reported of a neurological disorder in persons, chronically exposed to N₂O. Circumstantial evidence suggests nitrous oxide itself, or some volatile trace contaminant in the gas, is responsible for central and peripheral nervous system damage. In 14 of 15 instances the patients were dentists. Twelve of these had deliberately, repeatedly administered N₂O to themselves. The remaining two did not abuse nitrous oxide, but had been heavily exposed to it professionally. Neurological symptoms appeared between 3 months and 5 years after exposure began. The neurological manifestations disappeared partly, or completely, after exposure ceased, but reappeared if exposure was resumed. The disorder usually began with numbness or tingling in the hands or feet. At first the sensory symptoms were patchy, but later symmetrical distal numbness occurred. Some patients exposed to nitrous oxide complained of a degree of impotence, some had impaired sphincter control and several mentioned depression, impaired memory and difficulty in thinking. Those exposed to N₂O should be aware of this newly recognized hazard of the substance. (Med J. Austral 1978; 2:1227 (May 19)).